

A1 wherein the subscriber's SSP is operative, in response to routing of the communication, to make a query of the SCP with respect to the communication; and

wherein the SCP, in response to the query, is operative to cause the communication to be transferred to the different directory number.

A2 17. (Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the action comprises an action other than receipt of a voice mail message from the caller (an other action).

A3 26. (Amended) The VMS of Claim 24, wherein the action comprises an action other (an other action) than receipt of a voice mail message from the caller or the communication.

REMARKS

In the non-final Office Action mailed September 11, 2002, the Office Action rejected Claims 1-29. The Office Action rejected Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-20, and 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,301,349 to *Malik* ("*Malik*"). Furthermore, the Office Action rejected Claims 5, 13, 21, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Malik* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,148,069 to *Ekstrom et al.* ("*Eckstrom*").